taken by the Government have been detailed in the Mid-Year Review presented in the Rajya Sabha on 13th December, 2004.

(d) The fiscal deficit was Rs. 1,45,072 crore in 2002-03, Rs. 1,32,103 crore as per Revised Estimates for 2003-04 and the Budget Estimate for the current year is Rs. 1,37,407 crore.

Delay in withdrawal of money in Union Bank , Azamgarh

†1985. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the depositors of Union Bank's branch Thekma Bazar, district Azamgarh (U.P.) have to wait for one and half or two hours for withdrawal of money after issue of tokens;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would issue directives to ensure withdrawal of money without any delay;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) Union Bank of India has reported that their Thekma Branch handles approximately 100 payments per day and the average time taken for withdrawal is 15 to 20 minutes. Although no specific complaints for delayed payment has been received either at Regional Office level or at Central Office level, the concerned Branch Manager has been instructed to ensure that the payments should be made within the stipulated time-frame.

Retired Workers of Divested PSUs

†1986. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Public Sector Undertakings which have been sold to private companies and the number of employees working in these undertakings at the time of the sale, undertaking-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.